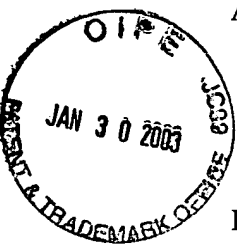


1772 \$

Attorney Docket No.: 5762.200-US

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Sorensen et al.

Serial No.: 09/577,694

Group Art Unit: 1772

Filed: May 22, 2000

Examiner: Hon, Sow Fun

For: Injection - Molded Stopper For Medical Containers

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

1. Petition and Fee for Extension of Time (in duplicate)
2. Amendment

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

on January 24, 2003.

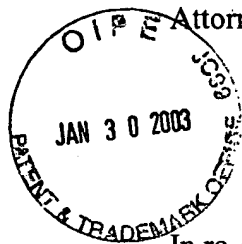
Rashida Haji
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(signature of person mailing paper)

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 26, 2002, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1- 20 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please add new claims 23-42:

23. A stopper comprising an injection-mouldable material made of a combination of butyl based rubber and a thermoplastic polymer, characterized in that the butyl based rubber is present in an amount of 70-90 % by weight and the thermoplastic polymer is present in an amount of 30-10 % by weight, and wherein the combination of the butyl based rubber and the thermoplastic polymer results in a reduced leakage of substances compared to the leakage of substances from a stopper made from a butyl based rubber alone.
24. The stopper according claim 23 having a hardness of 40-80 Shore A, wherein the hardness is measured in conformance with ASTM D2240, 5 sec., 1991.
25. The stopper according to claim 24, wherein the stopper has a hardness of 45-75 Shore A, when measured according to ASTM D2240, 5 sec., 1991.

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